



Conference Plans Shape Up

The 1997 Montana Aviation Conference will be February 27-March 1, 1997 at the Holiday Inn in Missoula. The Missoula conference committee has been busy putting together an interesting schedule for the three-day event. This year's conference sponsors are the Montana Aviation Trades Association, Montana Airport Managers Association, Montana Pilots Association and the Montana Aeronautics Division.

The program will include something for everyone with an interest in aviation, from the professional who makes his living through aviation to the pilot who flies strictly for fun.

A variety of concurrent sessions will be offered. The FAA will offer a Question and Answer Session as will the Montana Aeronautics Board.

Exhibitors from all over the country will reserve booth space for the trade show to be held in conjunction with the conference. These companies donate thousands of dollars in door prizes to be given away during the Conference. Those who preregister will be eligible for a special drawing.

A special spouse/guest program is on

tap for Friday afternoon. Students will be treated to an aviation aerospace career awareness session also held Friday.

In the works is a Teacher Workshop Session. This special program for educators will be offered on Thursday and Friday. Invite a teacher to attend. Call Jeanne Lesnik at the Division for more details.

Thursday evening will feature Dr. Jerry Cockrell, aviation psychologist and humorist—a genuine crowd pleaser!

Dr. Peggy Baty, President and founder of Women in Aviation International (WAI), will be the keynote speaker at the awards luncheon to be held on Saturday, March 1.

Registration fees are \$30 for an individual and \$40 for a family. This allows entrance into all sessions and includes drink tickets for a hospitality hour and luncheon on Friday.

Meal tickets are separate from the registration with the exception of the Friday luncheon and must be reserved no later than 48 hours in advance of each meal. Tickets for the kick-off luncheon must be reserved through pre-registration.

SPECIAL ADDITION: A hangar dinner and dance will be held Friday evening at the Missoula International Airport. Transportation to and from the Holiday Inn will be provided. Music by Top Jimmy, a popular Missoula show band.

Rooms for the conference have been blocked at the Holiday Inn (406)721-8550 at the rate of \$63 for a single and \$67 for a double; and at the Executive Motor Inn (406)543-7221 at the rate of \$38 for a single and \$48 for a double. The Executive Motor Inn is about a five minute walk to the conference site.

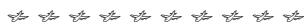
Organization meetings will follow the same schedule as in the past.

Make plans now to attend this grand Montana aviation event! ✈



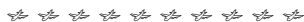
Administrator's Column

FAA to Allow Third-Class Medicals for Diabetics: The FAA has announced it will consider waivers to insulin-treated diabetics for limited third-class medicals. Current FAA regulations prohibit insulin-treated diabetics from qualifying for medical certificates and this regulation will remain. However, under a new policy the FAA will allow waivers if the individual is at a low risk for hypoglycemia. Waivers will be restricted to student, recreational and private pilots. The FAA will monitor those pilots to determine the effectiveness of the new policy. It should be noted that waivers have been issued for over 10 years for third class medicals to pilots who use oral hypoglycemic drugs.



Funding Needs for FAA: In response to the mandate by Congress the FAA has awarded a \$900,000 contract to a firm to conduct an assessment of the FAA's funding needs for the next seven years. The results of this assessment will be presented to the National Civil Aviation Review Commission to be considered in their recommendations to Congress on how to fund the FAA. Congress stipulated that the study address air traffic forecasts, safety inspectors, aircraft certification, FAA's programs, productivity, workloads, and ATC improvement needs. The FAA has conducted its own study and has come up with a \$12 billion shortfall. Of course this figure has been questioned, not only by the aviation industry, but by Congress as well, which was a factor in having this independent needs assessment conducted. Of major concern is that after the results of the study are presented to the National Civil Aviation Review Commission, how will they recom-

mend that the funds be collected? The aviation industry is fearful of added "user fees" in addition to the current fuel tax, airline ticket tax, and tax on certain air freight all of which goes into the aviation user trust fund and currently funds 75% of the FAA's operations plus funds the Airport Improvement Program (AIP). This new needs assessment study is due by mid-February so we'll just have to wait and see....



Holiday Greetings: With the Christmas season now upon us, this will be our last newsletter for 1996. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their continued support of the Aeronautics Division. Many of you have spent countless hours of volunteer work to make our programs successful and we at the Division and the Aeronautics Board are grateful. On behalf of the Division and the Aeronautics Board I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and prosperous 1997. ✈



Montana and the Sky
Department of Transportation
Marc Racicot, Governor
Marv Dye, Director

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Telephone 444-2506
2630 Airport Road
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Michael D. Ferguson
Administrator

Aeronautics Board
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Aviation Appreciation Scholarship

The second annual Aviation Appreciation Scholarship will be presented at the Montana Aviation Conference on March 1, 1997 in Missoula.

The scholarship was initiated last year by Jeff Morrison, retired former owner of Morrison Flying Service, currently Exec Air in Helena.

Jeff has set up the \$250 scholarship as a token of appreciation to the aviation community. The scholarship is designed to help a young person seeking a career in aviation.

The scholarship recipient will be selected based upon a Montana resident explaining in a letter the reasons for applying, future career goals, past aviation experience and any outstanding achievement.

Letter of application should be sent to Montana Aeronautics Division, P.O. Box 5178, Helena, MT 59604. Letters must be postmarked on or before February 3, 1997. ✈

Parrott Family Scholarship

The Parrott Family will award an aviation scholarship in 1997 to a Montana high school student.

The scholarship will pay \$1,000 and is to be used over a one-year period for pilot training programs for students enrolled in the Rocky Mountain College (RMC) aviation program. The funds may be used for tuition in the RMC aviation program, and/or flight training expenses leading to a Private, Commercial, or Flight Instructor Certificate, and may include Instrument and Multi-engine Ratings, that are required by the RMC aviation curriculum. Eligible expenses include aircraft rental, flight and ground instruction, simulator training, and the purchase of aviation-related educational materials and related supplies.

The award will be made by a selection committee and will be based on overall character, academic qualifications, seriousness of purpose, past aviation-related activities, or any other criteria determined to be appropriate.

Applicant's need to send a letter of application to the Montana Aeronautics Division, P.O. Box 5178, Helena, MT 59624. Application deadline is February 3, 1997.

The award will be made at the Montana Aviation Conference in Missoula at the end of February. ✈

ALOA Scholarships

A Love of Aviation Scholarship (ALOA) established in 1993 by an anonymous donor due to the retirement of the Van DeRiet Flight Scholarship, will again be awarded in 1997.

Last year a second anonymous donor joined this excellent program, making two (2) ALOA scholarships available to Montanans. Again this year two applicants will be chosen to receive these flight scholarships.

The \$250 scholarships are to be used to help defray costs of flight instruction and will be presented during the 1997 Montana Aviation Conference in Missoula.

Award of the scholarships will be based on applications in the form of a letter explaining the reasons for applying, future career goals, past aviation experience and any outstanding achievements.

Letters of application should be sent to Montana Aeronautics Division, P.O. Box 5178, Helena, MT 59624 or call 444-2506 for more information. Letters must be postmarked on or before February 3, 1997. ✈

Calendar

January 31-February 1—Flight Instructor Refresher Clinic, Helena.

February 27-March 1—Montana Aviation Conference, Holiday Inn, Missoula.

March 2-5—North Dakota Aviation Symposium, Bismarck, ND.

March 8-9—Rocky Mountain Air Fair, Lowry Air Force Base, Denver.

New FAA Regional Administrator

We are delighted to announce that Larry Andriesen will succeed Fred Isaac as Northwest Mountain Regional Administrator.

Larry was the Deputy Administrator of the Northwest Mountain Region for seven years prior to assuming this position. Larry has served with the FAA since 1974.

The Regional Administrator represents the FAA Administrator in the states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Utah and Colorado. The regional program includes over 4,100 employees, nearly 1,000 staffed and unstaffed facilities, and an annual budget of nearly \$430 million.

Congratulations, Larry!

NOTE: A retirement party for Fred Isaac is being held January 4 at the Seattle Marriott Sea-Tac Airport. For information contact Ann Radford at (206)227-2002. Letters and cards can be sent to Ann at ANM-1A, 1601 Lind Avenue SW, Renton, WA 98055-4056. Best wishes, Fred!



State-of-the-art Fire Training in the Last Best Place

The Rocky Mountain Emergency Services Training Center (RMESTC) represents the most realistic aircraft fire training available in the world today. The RMESTC, located in Helena, was developed to provide specialized training and certification for class "A," "B," and "C" airports. It is imperative that the instructors and equipment are able to accommodate the broad range of training needs required at airports in these classifications which account for 68% of all certified airports in the United States.

737 Spill Fire Trainer

The RMESTC 737 spill fire trainer has 56 individual fire segments that can be burned in hundreds of different scenarios. The 8,800 square foot pit completely surrounds the mock-up with flame heights that reach 50 feet. The computer controlled fire is monitored from multiple positions to insure safety of the students and trainers.

737 Specialized Trainer

The RMESTC 737 specialized aircraft fire trainer (SAFT) is the heart of this facility. The extremely realistic mock-up is equipped with numerous propane "fire-

places" to provide training in all required categories. The instructors can select engine fires, wheel fires, cockpit fires, galley fires, baggage compartment fires, lavatory fires, and interior passenger compartment fires. The passenger compartment is equipped with seats, overhead bins, and emergency exits that replicate a 737 airliner. Smoke generators provide additional smoke, simulating the worst conditions a fire fighter could encounter. The mock-up is complete with three safety systems (computer, radio, and manual kill devices) and a 5,000 cubic foot per minute exhaust fan system that can clear the cabin in thirty seconds if needed. The mock-up doors, including entry to the cockpit and lavatory, are airline size to insure students become accustomed to the narrow entry doors used in airliners. The mock-up is fully painted and almost appears to be flight ready.

Safety and the Environment

The RMESTC was designed to be friendly to the environment. The propane fueled fire provides dense smoke that dissipates quickly due to the lack of heavy carbon particles.

The RMESTC also was designed with redundant safety systems. The computer controlled equipment requires a complete safety system check prior to each burn. The computer monitors each training event to detect any abnormalities and can shut the burn down immediately if necessary. On-site medical assistance and a fully equipped medical room are provided in case of emergency.

The RMESTC purchased a new 1,500 gallon ARFF vehicle for use at the facility. The Airport Authority has two additional 1,500 gallon ARFF vehicles, a quick response unit, and a military dry chemical truck. In addition, a large number of breathing apparatus, bunker/turn-outs, entry tools, jaws of life, and other training equipment are located at the facility.

The Facility

The RMESTC training building is a two-story, 13,000 square foot specialized structure. There are multiple classrooms, including a vehicle bay which accommodates a 1,500 gallon ARFF vehicle within the large classroom. The building also has offices, a medical room, resource room, equipment room, decontamination room, men's and women's shower rooms and rest rooms, and a large second floor control room that can be used as an additional classroom for specialized courses. The control room contains two computer systems to operate the 737 mock-ups providing backup assurance in case of computer failure.

Training Courses

The Helena College of Technology (HCT) is in charge of the training program and provides a complete selection of classes in partnership with the Airport Authority. The Helena College of Technology also operates an outstanding FAA power plant and airframe school which has been in operation for over 40 years at the Helena Regional Airport. College credits are provided to all students that successfully complete the RMESTC training courses. Courses are provided in basic aircraft fire



An aerial view of the fire training center depicts the facility layout. Stop by and check it out the next time you are at the Helena Regional Airport.



The training facility includes classrooms and houses the critical computer control room.

fighting training and recertification. Additional classes include emergency medical training, disaster and emergency services, emergency management, and training classes for fire fighter instructor.

This fall 62 Montana airport firefighters were recertified in 1- and 2-day classes. The training schedule will resume this spring.

Future Expansion

The RMESTC is aggressively pursuing the addition of a structural fire trainer for this facility. The design of the structural trainer provides for a two-story building with multiple fire scenarios. A rail tank car has been acquired to provide specialized training for agencies that may be required to respond to rail incidents. The unit will be equipped with a smoke generator and a liquid flow system to simulate toxic spills. A driving track is also being designed that will provide large vehicle driver training.

For class schedules or additional information write to the Helena Regional Airport at 2850 Skyway Drive, Helena, MT 59601. ✈️



An awesome site—watching the 737 trainer go “up in flames!”

Testing Center Opens

Smith Aviation Testing, an aviation educational testing center, opened December 1 at the Great Falls International Airport.

Smith Aviation Testing is an Authorized Prometric Testing Center offering testing network services to customers from a variety of certifying organizations. The center provides computer-based testing on demand in a noise free testing facility; the most up-to-date technology; and a staff of professional educators.

Computer-based testing at Smith Aviation Testing is highly secure, with testing sessions available on a daily basis from 8 AM to 5 PM Monday through Friday, unless prior arrangements are made for Saturday appointments. Call 1-800-274-1900 to register and schedule your examination at Smith Aviation Testing.

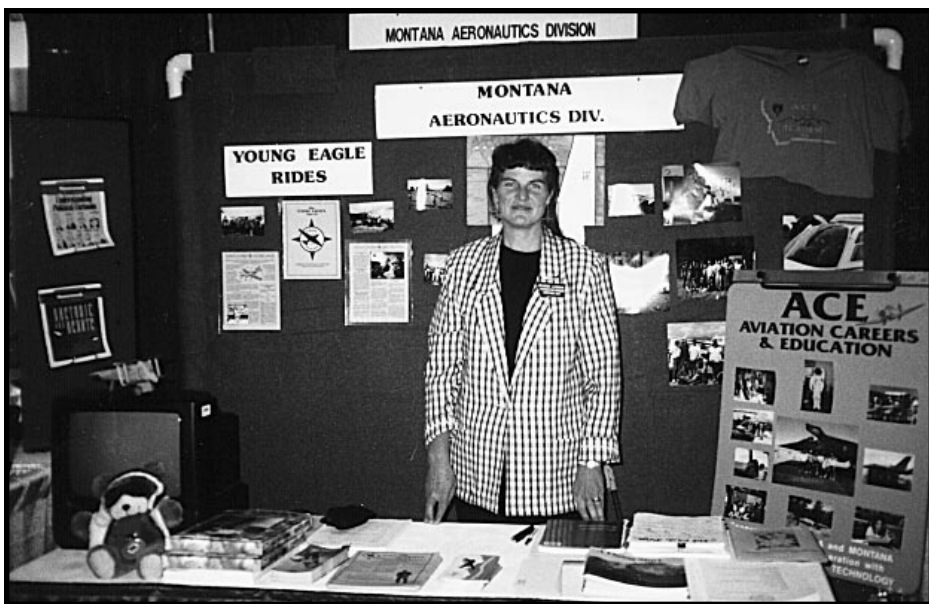
The center is located at Front Range Aviation at the south end of the Great Falls International Airport. The local phone number and address is: (406)771-0791, 4501 Ulm Frontage Road North, Great Falls, MT 59404.

In addition, Smith Aviation Testing provides educational services to help aviation enthusiasts pass the variety of the FAA examinations—written, oral and practical.

Pilot Wanted

Law partner Alexander (Zander) Blewett, III of Hoyt & Blewett of Great Falls, MT is a VFR rated pilot with a 1979 Mooney 201. Zander is looking for an IFR rated pilot to fly around Montana and surrounding states.

Inquiries should be sent to Hoyt & Blewett, ATTN: Managing Partner, P.O. Box 2807, Great Falls, MT 59403. ✈️



Jeanne Lesnik at the Montana Aeronautics Aviation Education Booth at the MEA Educator's Conference that was held in Helena, October 16-18. The Montana Educators Association and the Montana Federation of Teachers jointly sponsor the annual educators' conference. The exhibit area is a great place to meet and talk with teachers. The Montana Aeronautics booth featured curriculum and exploration of flight with a Montana flavor.

NATA Lowers Dues

In an attempt to expand its membership beyond the ranks of air taxis and fixed-base operators, the National Air Transportation Association launched a membership drive aimed at other segments of the industry. NATA is lowering its base-dues amount from \$500 to \$340 per year for small aviation businesses with fewer than seven employees. In addition, NATA will offer a variety of dues payment schedules for members, ranging from annual to monthly payments.

NATA retained the firm of O'Connell and Meier, an association marketing company, to head the membership drive. That company is supposed to target growth in non-airline service businesses, such as Part 145 repair stations, in addition to its traditional core membership of FBOs and air taxi operators. NATA's board of directors also approved "the formation of 'strategic partnerships' with other associations for joint projects or programs and will expand its charter to provide association management services to other aviation groups." NATA President Jim Coyne said this effort "will position NATA as the leader of the aviation service industry in Washington." ✈️

Update from Canada

As of November 1, privatization had arrived in Canada. All air traffic controllers resigned from Transport Canada and were rehired with Nav Canada.

The web site for Nav Canada is: <http://www.navcanada.ca/>

Flight Instructor Refresher Clinic

The annual Flight Instructor Refresher Clinic will be held in Helena at the Aladdin Motor Inn on January 31 and February 1, 1997.

This clinic, conducted by Gaits Aviation, meets the FAA requirements for CFI and Chief CFI renewals. The clinic is fast paced with the first class starting Friday 4 PM- 9:50 PM, and 7 AM-5:20 PM on Saturday. Tuition is \$90 in-state, \$110 out-of-state. Class size is limited to 65 participants.

Rooms at the Aladdin Motor Inn have been reserved. Contact the motel at 1-800-541-2743 before January 20, to reserve a room at the special state rate of \$31.20 for a single or \$49.92 for two people/two beds.

1997 Annual Mechanics IA Renewal Seminar

The 1997 IA renewal seminar will once again be held in conjunction with the statewide aviation conference. This year's conference will be held at the Holiday Inn at Missoula, February 28 - March 1.

Many interesting speakers from all areas of the aviation industry will give informative presentations that will be helpful to all mechanics.

Tentative speakers include:

Bruce Ryerson—FAA FSDO Helena
Jim Szymanski—Bell Helicopters
Frank Gurko—Champion Products
Othell Virgin—Continental Motors
Tim Roehl—General Aviation Modifications
John Donohue—Pratt & Whitney
Paul Yednick—Madison Valley Aircraft
Sue Seckel—Wall Colmony Exhaust Systems
Steve Vold—Aertronics, Inc.

If you have any questions about the seminar, please contact Mike Rogan at the Montana Aeronautics Division at (406) 444-2506.

Montana Aviation Conference February 27–March 1, 1997 Holiday Inn Missoula

Thursday Evening—Dr. Jerry Cockrell

Friday Evening—Hangar Dinner/Dance, Missoula International Airport (Transportation Provided)

Registration Fee:

\$30 per person; \$40 per family; allows entry to all events.

Those who preregister will be eligible for a special drawing!

Room Reservations: Rooms have been blocked at the Holiday Inn, \$63 single; \$67 double **(406)721-8550** and at the Executive Motor Inn \$38 single; \$48 double **(406)543-7221**.

Meals: Separate from registration and **must be** reserved 48 hours in advance. Thursday Kick-Off Luncheon must be reserved *prior to* the Conference.

1997 Conference Co-Sponsors:

MAMA, MATA, MPA, MONTANA AERONAUTICS DIVISION

Tear off and mail the pre-registration today.

Montana Aviation Conference, February 27–March 1, 1997

Please type or print.

Names of participants (for name tags): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Your Organization Affiliation
(choose one only for name tag):

MPA MATA
MFF MAMA
99S MAAA
EAA AMAA
CAP Other
MSPA

Please make the following reservation

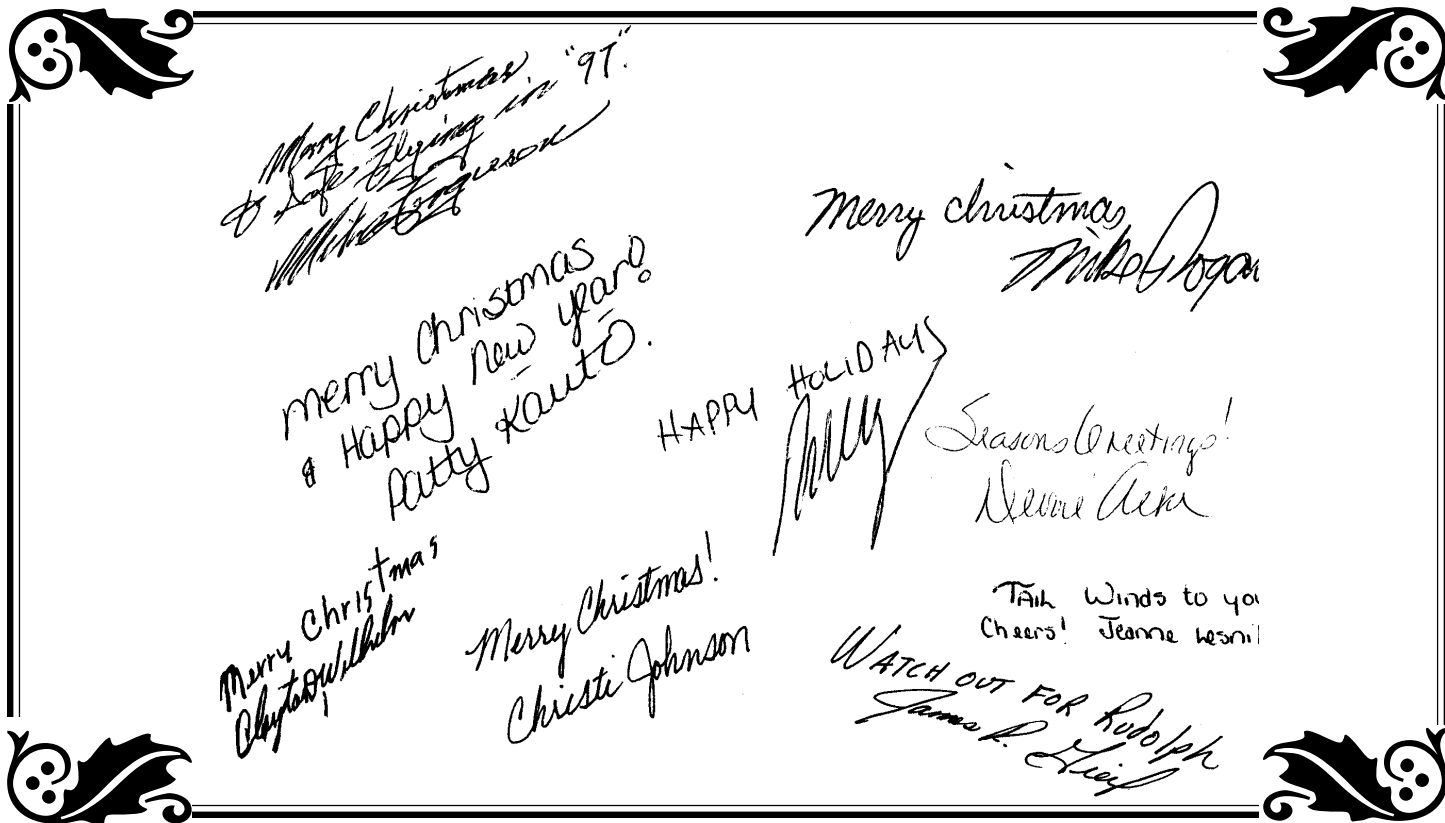
*Note: meal tickets *must* be purchased 48 hours in advance.

Registration Fee:	_____ @ \$30/person	\$ _____
	_____ @ \$40/family	\$ _____
Thursday Luncheon:	_____ @ \$10	\$ _____
Friday Luncheon:	_____ FREE	\$ _____
Friday Dinner/Dance:	_____ @ \$10	\$ _____
Saturday Luncheon:	_____ @ \$10	\$ _____
Saturday Banquet:	_____ @ \$22	\$ _____

Reservations must be made prior to the conference for Thursday's luncheon.

Make check payable to: Montana Aviation Conference

Mail to: Montana Aviation Conference • P.O. Box 5178 • Helena, MT 59604



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